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The Young Vocalist: a Collection of Twelve Songs, each with an accompaniment for the Piano-forte, selected from Mozart, Weber, Mendelssohn, Spohr, &c. By Mrs. MOUNSEY BARTHOLOMEW. London: Griffith and Farran.

THE title of this little volume of juvenile vocal music will sufficiently explain its object. Mrs. Bartholomew very truly says in her preface that most of the collections of songs for children "consist of old popular tunes, or they are of too fragmentary a character, being only eight bars in length." This defect has been remedied in the work before us, most of the specimens being of the average length of what may be called "grown up songs." The selection of the melodies has been judiciously made; and the words are simple, without degenerating into inanity. We cordially commend this volume as an excellent Christmas present to those children who, having escaped from the nursery, are not yet fully recognised in the drawing-room.

Correspondence.

Petersfield, October 17th, 1867.

MESSRS. NOVELLO AND CO.

Gentlemen.—The idea of your correspondent, Mr. D. Parks, page 169, in your last issue of *Musical Times*, deserves to be entertained, and to further the design, permit me to say that its success would more likely be ensured were it made a *national affair*, to carry out which let a prospectus be issued appealing to all lovers of music for subscriptions for this competition. Let the Four Services (Morning and Evening)—we ought to have SIX for £150.—desired be called *The Victoria Services*, as being composed in the present reign. Form of composition to be stated; that is, what the Service is to consist of, and whether repetition of the words is to be allowed, or not; and whether *two* settings of a verse might not be considered desirable, thus, for parish choirs let there be *no* repetition of words, but, to give the composer an opportunity for expressing his ideas, and rendering the Service more cathedral-like, let him, if he desires, set a particular verse or verses, that *he* may fancy, in two forms, say thus, "Thou art the King of glory," set plain—then set in all the fulness and beauty of learning—so that either could be used, and yet a consecutive Service. It is most desirable that a number of gentlemen should at once be asked to act as judges of these Services, and their names published in the prospectus, which would assure subscribers, and composers, that from such a tribunal nothing but the fairest verdict would proceed, and at the same time state that their acceptance of such important post shall not preclude them from writing for the prizes, or we should lose some of our best talent. I should hope such men as Dr. Wesley, J. Goss, J. Turle, E. J. Hopkins (Temple), H. Smart, Dr. Dykes, G. Cooper, Montem Smith, Dr. Steggall, Dr. Stainer, J. Barnby, Sterndale Bennett, and Macfarren, would lend their valuable aid in this attempt to further the cause of good music. The decision of two-thirds of the number of judges to be final as to merit. All subscribers to be entitled to copies of all the Services. I will put my name down for £1, on condition that the foregoing ideas are entertained and carried out. If the suggestion meets your approval, no house in the world has the facilities for promoting it and bringing it to a glorious termination that you have. Let us remember the *Triumphs of Orana* on music's side, and the Bridgewater Treatises on that of literature. If for Six Services would the prizes do thus—£35 for the best, £25 for the second, £20 for the third, £15 for the fourth, £10 for the fifth, £5 for the sixth; total £110. Ought we not to have (morning) a *chant* for the Venite, single or double, at option of composer, and Te Deum, Jubilate or Benedictus, Kyrie, Sanctus, Creed. (Evening) Magnificat or Cantate, Deus or Nunc dimittis.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your very obedient servant,
HENRY NICHOLS,
Chemist.

[We have printed our correspondent's letter precisely as we received it; and shall be glad to open our columns to any further suggestions on the subject.—Ed. *Musical Times*.]

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * * Notices of concerts and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence; otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance.

We beg to remind our correspondents that all notices of country concerts, whether written or extracted from newspapers, must be accompanied by the name and address of the person who sends them.

Our correspondents will greatly oblige by writing all names as clearly as possible, as we cannot be obliged for any mistake which may occur.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

Notice is sent to all Subscribers whose payment (in advance) is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscription is not renewed. We again remind those who are disappointed in obtaining back numbers, that although the music pages are always stereotyped, only a sufficient quantity of the rest of the paper is printed to supply the current sale.

Fortissimo.—The extract from Haydn's letter must not be taken literally. No composer who is worth anything "hammers away" until he has struck out an idea.

Legalis.—It is illegal to make manuscript copies of copyright music.

Organist.—We are not aware of any "agency" through which our correspondent could effect his object.

John Lawrance.—The original singers in *Elijah*, at Birmingham, were Madame Curadori Allan, Miss Bassano, Miss M. E. Hawes, the Misses A. and M. Williams, Mr. Lockey, Mr. Hobbs, Herr Staudigh, Mr. H. Phillips, and Mr. Machin.

Musicus.—We cannot recommend songs to our correspondent. He should consult the catalogue of a music publisher.

Brief Summary of Country News.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this Summary; as all the notices are either collated from the local papers, or supplied to us by occasional correspondents.

ASHFORD.—A very excellent Concert was given by the Ashford Choral Society, on the 31st October, at the New Corn Exchange, which was crowded in every part. Miss H. Furley and Miss Ferguson were highly successful in their vocal solos, the audience being most enthusiastic in their applause after each song; and in many instances succeeding in enforcing an encore. Messrs. Calvert, Wind, and Scammell were equally well received, the two first-named gentlemen being compelled to repeat their songs. The vocal pieces by the choir were—"From Oberon in fairyland," "Ye spotted snakes," and "Here in cool grove." The solo and chorus, "Haste thee, nymph," was also excellently given, the solo being taken by the Rev. J. P. Syré, who fulfilled his part admirably, and was commended in the warmest manner by the audience. The pianoforte accompaniment in the glees and chorus was well played by Miss Stickings; and Mr. Legge was an efficient conductor. The band, led by Mr. Fuller, performed several instrumental works with much skill and effect.

BELFAST.—The members of the Fisherwick Choir gave their third annual concert in the Alfred School, on the 30th October. The large room was well filled in every part. The programme consisted of a good selection of songs, duets, and glees. A glee "Hail lovely May," composed by Mr. Moss, was sung for the first time in public, and met with a good reception; the local papers speak well of it, and of the performance generally. Miss McFarlane, Miss Kimpston, Mr. McMath, and Mr. Giles were the solo vocalists, Mr. Armstrong McMahon presided at the pianoforte; and Mr. William Moss conducted.

BOLTON.—A performance of Mendelssohn's *St. Paul* was given by the Bolton Philharmonic Society, at the Temperance Hall, on the 29th Oct., which was in every respect highly successful. Madame Patey-Whytock was unfortunately prevented from singing, on account of severe indisposition; and her place was most ably supplied by Miss Banks, who gave the whole of her solo music with the utmost effect. Mr. Perren and Mr. Patey were also thoroughly efficient in the tenor and bass parts; and the choruses, especially "Rise up, arise and shine," were delivered with much spirit and precision. The Oratorio was conducted by Mr. Peter Staton.—On Saturday, 26th October last, died Mr. John Fawcett, in his 78th year. The deceased, who had attained great local celebrity as a composer of sacred music, was a native of the village of Wennington, in Lancashire. His compositions are numerous, comprising at least seven books of Psalmody, a very large number of Anthems and Odes, mostly with instrumental accompaniments, an Oratoriette called "Paradise," a Pianoforte Tutor, a Church Service, Vocal Instruction books, as well as secular songs, pieces, and military music.

BOSTON SPA, YORKSHIRE.—On Monday, the 11th ult. Morning and Evening Concerts were given in the Lecture Hall, in aid of the Boston Spa United Cricket Club. The concerts were under the patronage, and in the presence of, the leading nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood. The orchestra was ably conducted by Mr. Matthew Arnold, organist and choirmaster of the parish church, Harrogate; and the pieces performed were Beethoven's Symphony, No. 1, in C, Haydn's 7th and 8th Symphonies, and the Overtures to *Tancredi*, *Masaniello*, and *Caliph of Bagdad*. The vocal portion of the programme was sustained by Miss Arnold, Messrs. Stubley, Clarke, Fawcett, Hodgson, Arnold, and Watson. Especial mention must be made of the glees, part songs, &c., rendered by Miss Arnold, Messrs. Fawcett, Hodgson, and Watson. Mr. M. Arnold officiated as pianist, and also performed on the violin with much success. The room was very full; and we trust that a large sum will be realized.

BRIDGNORTH.—The First Concert of the Harmonic Society was given at the Assembly Rooms, on the 5th ult. The programme was of a popular character, and the various pieces were most enthusiastically received by the audience. Several glees were executed with much care and precision. Mr. Herbert was eminently successful in his songs; and Mr. J. J. Ransford received an unanimous encore for his execution of the bass solo "Rocked in the cradle of the deep." Miss J. Cureton and Mr. Horne were also much applauded, especially in a duet, which was exceedingly well sung. The solo pianist was Mr. John Sewell, who executed a piece so brilliantly as to elicit an encore which, however, he did not respond to. The choir was ably conducted by Mr. Sewell.

BRISTOL.—The opening Oratorio at the new Colston Hall was Handel's *Messiah*, the performance of which was in every respect a most decided success. The chorus numbered 446

voices; and the orchestra, led by Mr. H. Blagrove, consisted of 100 performers, selected from the local professional and amateur talent, strengthened by several of the best instrumentalists from London. The solo vocalists were Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Julia Elton, Mr. Cummings, and Mr. Lewis Thomas, all of whom are too well known in Oratorio music to need more than a mere passing word of commendation on their efforts. The chorus throughout the work was in the highest degree satisfactory; and the audience (the largest ever seen at any similar performance in this city) appeared thoroughly to appreciate the sublimity of the music. During the evening the "Dead March," in Saul, was performed, in compliment to the memory of Mr. Weiss. We should mention that the hall appears, acoustically, to be admirably suited for musical purposes. The appearance of the room, too, has been greatly improved by eight busts of the greatest musical composers having been placed over the four doorways in the hall. These have been prepared by Mr. R. L. Boulton, sculptor, of Cheltenham and Bristol, from busts executed in Germany, now in the possession of Mr. Merrick, who has kindly lent them for the purpose.—A Harvest Festival was held in the Church of St. Barnabas, Ashley Road, on All Saints' Day. The service, which was full choral, commenced with a processional hymn, "Come ye thankful people, come," No. 223 *Hymns Ancient and Modern*. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. J. Hamilton, M.A., incumbent of the church. The responses used were Tallis's. The anthem was, "Thou visitest the earth and bleasest it" (Dr. Greene), the tenor solo in which was sung by Mr. T. Baldwin. Mr. Cecil Rodway, the organist and choir-master of the church, ably assisted at the organ; and at the close of the service performed Beethoven's "Hallelujah Chorus." The collection amounted to £4 2s. 6d.—On the 18th ult. the first of the Colston Hall Popular Concerts took place before a large audience. The programme was well selected for the occasion; and the execution of the various pieces was in every respect most satisfactory. Miss Ada Jackson and Mr. Merrick were especially successful in their vocal solos; and both received encores too powerful to be resisted. The band was thoroughly efficient. Herr Pfeiffer was leader, Mr. Brooke conductor, and Mr. Maker the accompanist.

BURSELEM.—Handel's Oratorio, *Samson*, was most successfully performed at the Town Hall, on the 29th October, under the direction of Mr. J. W. Powell, to whose energy and perseverance the public is already largely indebted for many musical evenings in connection with the members of the Potteries Sol-fa Prize Choirs. The whole of the choruses in this difficult work were given with a steadiness and vigour which astonished and delighted all present, and the applause which followed was of the heartiest description. The solo vocalists were Miss Helena Walker (soprano), Mrs. Lincey-Walton (contralto), Mr. Wilford Morgan (tenor), and Mr. Brandon (bass). Mr. Brandon (who is already an established favourite in the Potteries) was thoroughly successful in the airs "Thy glorious deeds," "Honour and arms," and "How willing my paternal love," and indeed all the principal singers were received in their respective solos with the utmost favour. Mr. C. A. Seymour was leader of the band; and Mr. H. Walker, of Manchester, presided at the organ.

CAMBORNE.—A very good performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* was given on the 29th October, at the new Assembly Room, by the Camborne Choral Society, under the direction of their able and diligent instructor, Mr. Nunn. The choruses were satisfactorily rendered throughout; the most minute attention being bestowed upon the variations of tone so essential to the effect of the choral portions of this highly dramatic work. The principal vocalists were Miss Amelia Mitchell (soprano), Miss Susan Mitchell (contralto), Mr. W. C. Symons (tenor), and Mr. E. P. Thomas (bass), all of whom—especially the contralto—were thoroughly efficient in the music allotted to them. The instrumental accompaniments were represented by a pianoforte and harmonium, which were well played by Miss Harry, of Hayle, and Mr. J. G. Smith, of Trevu, Camborne.

CARLOW.—The Second Concert of the Carlow Harmonic Society took place in the Assembly Rooms, on Wednesday evening, the 13th ult., and was numerously and fashionably attended. The proceedings were conducted by R. K. Atkinson, Esq., organist of Waterford Cathedral, ably assisted by Wm. Power O'Donoghue, Esq., Mus. Bac., Oxon., Dublin. The programme consisted of selections from the works of the most popular composers; and amongst the choruses which gave the most satisfaction, were "The Chough and Crow," and "The Soldiers' Chorus," from *Faust*, both of which had to be repeated. The amateur band, in connection with the Society, gave the utmost effect to the orchestral pieces.

DERBY.—On the 28th October, a Miscellaneous Vocal Concert was given in the "Temple" Chapel, under the conductorship of Mr. Wm. Morley. The pieces selected were from the Oratorios of *Judas*, *Samson*, &c., and were rendered by the choir of the chapel, assisted by several local vocalists, and accompanied by an efficient orchestra. Miss Kerry and Messrs. Smith, Crofts, and Massey were highly successful in their solos; and Messrs. Day and Forman lent valuable aid in the concerted music. Mr. Wm. Morley conducted with his usual ability. The proceeds of the concert will be devoted to the purchase of a new organ.

DERRY.—On the 8th ult., Herr Malméne gave a popular concert in the Corporation Hall, which was crowded almost to excess. The programme, which consisted of selections from various authors, was rendered in a highly creditable manner. On this occasion, Miss Ella Malméne made her début as pianiste before

a public audience; and her graceful appearance, in conjunction with her superior skill as an amateur, won for her the hearty applause of the assembly. Mr. Prior acquitted himself admirably on the violin and Herr Malméne was warmly applauded after singing the well-known melody, "Norah, the Pride of Kildare." The members of the Derry Philharmonic Society also rendered several pieces in good style.

DEWSBURY.—The Dewsbury Choral Society gave a successful Concert in the Church School Room, on Friday evening, the 22nd ult. The solo vocalists were Mrs. A. Quith, Misses Thornes and Senior, Master W. Inman, and Messrs. Bond, France, Marsden, Whitehead, and Taylor, all of whom were highly successful in their songs, many of which were encored. The singing of part songs and glees reflected great credit on Mr. J. W. Dean's careful training. Mr. W. H. Hopkinson presided at the pianoforte, and Mr. J. W. Dean conducted.

DUBLIN.—On the 5th and 6th ult. an Examination was held in the rooms of the Dublin University Choral Society, for the Musical Exhibitions lately founded by the board of Trinity College. The examination consisted of—1st. A Solo, previously prepared. 2nd. Sight singing from any clef. 3rd. Elements of the Theory of Music. The last-mentioned portion of the examination was on paper, the questions being proposed by the Rev. J. P. Mahaffy, M.A., Fellow of Trinity College and Præcentor of the Chapel, and R. P. Stewart, Mus. Doc., Professor of Music in the University. Fifteen candidates competed, of whom the following were elected to exhibitions:—Biggs, Richard, Bass; Purefoy, Richard D., Bass; Purdon, Edward, Alto; Ringland, Arthur H., Tenor; Little, Sydney Hamilton, Tenor; and the following to places in the choir:—Griffith, John P., Bass; Rainsford, Richard, Bass; Lang, William, Tenor; Mac Nally, F. G., Bass. It is the duty of the Exhibitors and members of the voluntary choir to attend the Præcentor's rehearsals, and to assist at the choral service of the Chapel.

ECKINGTON.—The first Choral Festival of the Associated Choirs belonging to the Rural Deanery of Staveley, numbering 150 choristers, was held in the Parish Church of Eckington, on Tuesday the 12th ult., and drew together a very large congregation. The service was full choral, commencing with a procession of the clergy from the belfry tower, down the main aisle of the church to their respective places, while the choir sang the processional hymn. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. W. Haworth, of Staveley, Tallis's service being used for the occasion. The anthem was "O praise the Lord," (Goss). Mr. E. Keeton, organist of Eckington, presided at the excellent organ of which this fine old church is possessed, and afterwards played several pieces to show its capabilities. The amount collected, towards defraying the cost of the gathering, was £7 8s. 6d.

GLASGOW.—On the 19th ult., the Glasgow Choral Union gave a very successful performance of Handel's Oratorio, *Samson*. The precision and spirit with which the difficult choruses throughout this work were sung, under the able guidance of Mr. H. A. Lambeth (the conductor of the society), reflect the highest credit upon all concerned; and we heartily congratulate the Union on having added one more to the many triumphs it has already achieved. The solo vocalists were Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Madlle. Drasdil, Mr. Nelson Varley, and Mr. Lewis Thomas, all of whom were thoroughly efficient in the music allotted to them. The orchestra was extremely good; and M. Lemmens rendered excellent service at the organ, occasionally giving assistance to the voices in some of the powerful choruses. The hall was crowded in every part.

KING'S LYNN.—The fifth season of the Philharmonic Society's Concerts was inaugurated on the 15th ult. by a very creditable performance of Haydn's *Tempest*, Mendelssohn's *Hear my Prayer*, and a pleasing selection of part songs, &c. Miss Florence de Courcy afforded her professional assistance in the principal soprano parts; and her efforts were ably seconded by amateurs of much ability. The chorus, numbering nearly 100, was under the direction of Mr. B. J. Whall; leader, Mr. Bray; organist, Mr. Rolfe.

LANGTON, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—The Fourth Annual Choral Festival was held at All Saints' Church, on Friday, the 1st ult. The psalms and canticles were well sung to Anglican chants. The Versicles and Litany were by Tallis, the *Te Deum* by Goss, and the Anthem "Thine, O Lord, is the greatness" by Kent. Prayers were intoned by the Rev. A. B. Simpson, of Bexhill; and the sermon was preached by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Gibraltar. Great credit is due to the choir for the excellent manner in which the service was performed. It was accompanied most efficiently by Mr. F. Knight, of Tunbridge Wells.

LEEDS.—The Fourth Concert of the present season was given by the Leeds Harmonic Union, in the New Temperance Hall and Mechanics' Institute, Armley, on Saturday, the 16th ult. The vocalists were Miss Downes Clarke, Mr. Abm. Firth and Mr. Dodds, assisted by the chorus of the Union, numbering about 70 voices. The hall was well filled; and, to judge from the hearty manner in which many pieces were encored, there is no doubt that the audience was well pleased with the entertainment provided. The glees were all carefully rendered, and gave the utmost satisfaction. Mr. Dodds conducted; and the pianist to the Society, Mr. Tom Dodds, presided most efficiently at the pianoforte.—The Madrigal Society, originally founded by Dr. Spark in 1851, has, after a

few years' silence, entered upon an existence which promises to eclipse its former influence and usefulness. On Wednesday, Dec. 4, the society, which musters 140 voices, will give Benedict's *St. Cecilia*, under the direction of the composer, together with other works of importance. Lord Lonsborough has been elected President, and Dr. Spark, the Conductor of the society.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD.—A new Choral Society has just been formed in this town for the practice and public performance of music by the best masters. The Society already numbers upwards of 70 members. The *Messiah* is the Oratorio selected for the first concert and Mr. C. D. Mortimer, (organist of All Saints Church) has been appointed conductor.

LEWISHAM.—On Monday evening, 28th October, the organ in the beautiful new Congregational Church at Lewisham was opened by W. T. Best, Esq., organist of St. George's Hall, Liverpool. The instrument, which is a fine specimen of Messrs. Hill and Son's work, was designed by Mr. Best, and contains two complete manuals and pedal, twenty-eight stops, and five couplers. It is evident from the result in this case, as well as in that of the fine organ in Harley-street Congregational Church, Bow (also designed by him), that Mr. Best is better aware than organ designers have hitherto been of what is required in a truly "Congregational" organ, and that he has discovered the secret of planning one which shall, within reasonable limits, combine the power necessary to support a large body of voices with the more delicate and agreeable qualities. Mr. Best's performance was, as it always is, incomparable, and was listened to with delight by a crowded audience.

LIVERPOOL.—The ninth Subscription Concert of the Philharmonic Society took place on the 5th ult., and was highly successful: the programme and performance being equally satisfactory. The principal vocalists were Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Signor Bettini, and Signor Gassier. Solo pianoforte, Madame Arabella Goddard. Both the orchestral and choral music went extremely well. The instrumental selection consisted of Mendelssohn's Sinfonia in A minor (a most appropriate performance, so near the anniversary of his death, on the 4th November, 1847), and the overtures to *La Vestale* (Spontini), and *Abou Hassan* (Weber). Madame Goddard played Benedict's Pianoforte Concerto in E flat, and Thalberg's Masaniello Fantasia with her usual delicacy and precision. The vocal members of the Philharmonic Society gave two choruses from Gounod's *Reine de Saba* (one of which was encored), and two of Mendelssohn's four-part songs. The solos by the principal singers were excellently given, and highly appreciated; the duet singing of Madame Trebelli-Bettini and Signor Bettini especially being received with enthusiastic applause. The duetto "Ai capricci," from *L'italiana in Algeri*, was also sung with much humour and spirit, by Madame Trebelli-Bettini and Signor Gassier. The immense organ in St. George's Hall has recently undergone many changes of an important nature. Owing to the former low pitch of the instrument, it was found almost impossible to co-operate in Oratorio, and other music requiring an instrumental band in addition to the organ. Advantage has also been taken to tune the instrument in accordance with the principles of equal temperament; and many useless stops have now given place to others of the most modern construction and variety of tone. The work, as ordered by the council, was carried out by the eminent organ-builder, Mr. Willis, under the superintendence of Mr. W. T. Best, and the re-opening took place on Saturday, 19th October, when the building was crowded in every part. The Tenth Subscription Concert of the Philharmonic Society took place on Tuesday, the 19th ult., the principal performers being Madlle. Sinico, Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Herr Ludwig Straus, solo violin. The first part of the concert was exclusively devoted to the compositions of Beethoven, and included the noble Overture in C, written for the opening of the Josephstädter Theatre, in 1822. Herr Straus rendered most exquisitely the Romance in F, by Beethoven; and, in the second part of the concert, a lovely adagio by Spohr, and an expressive "Abendlied" by Schumann. Madlle. Sinico distinguished herself by her very fine interpretation of "Ah! perfido!" and a word of praise should be given to Mr. Benedict for his performance of the accompaniment to "Adelaide." The second part commenced with Spohr's Sinfonia in D Minor, which, like all the orchestral music, was played *con amore*. The choral selection consisted of Beethoven's "Praise of Music," the March and Chorus from the "Ruins of Athens," a four-part song by Gounod, and Macfarren's effective "The cuckoo sings in the poplar tree." The concert concluded with a spirited performance of Auber's sparkling Overture, "Le lac des fées."

MACCLESFIELD.—The second Amateur Concert, in aid of the funds of the Macclesfield Certified Industrial School, took place on Wednesday evening, the 6th ult., in the large room of the above school, which was completely filled. The concert opened with the "Canadian Boat Song," very well sung by a few of the inmates; this was followed by the "Village Blacksmith," effectively given by Mr. Tom Hughes. Miss Nowell and Mr. Brodrick sang with very good taste "The Keel Row," and the Gipsy Duet from *La Traviata*. Miss Nowell gave also "Castles in the air," which was encored. Mr. C. E. Sandford was equally successful in "The Stirrup Cup," and "A che la morte," and on being recalled for the latter, he substituted "Her bright smile haunts me still." A pianoforte duet "Les beautés de la Dame Blanche," by the Misses Nowell, and two solos by Miss Dickinson were performed in excellent style, and drew forth well-merited applause. Miss Pollie Vaux very efficiently accompanied most of the singers on the pianoforte during the evening. The concert closed with the National Anthem, arranged by Novello.

MARLBOROUGH.—On the 19th ult. a Concert was given under the auspices of the Mutual Improvement Society, which was highly successful. The arrangements of the concert were under the direction of Mr. W. S. Bambridge (Professor of music to Marlborough College), who by his pianoforte performance during the evening proved himself an excellent artist, and a sound musician. Mrs. H. Barnby, Miss Robertine Henderson, and Mr. Wallace Wells were the favourite vocalists, the audience being most enthusiastic in their applause, especially after Offenbach's duet "I'm an Alsatian," which was given by Miss Henderson and Mr. Wells with much effect. The room was crowded.

OXFORD.—The second Musical Entertainment of the season was given on Wednesday the 13th ult., at the School-room, and was so successful that a repetition of the performance was again rendered necessary, as many persons could not obtain admittance. A concert with the same programme therefore took place in the Railway Lecture Room on the 21st, and with equal success. Readings were given by the Rev. W. M. Pyne, Rev. A. Brennan, W. Bourne, and F. G. C. Edgar, Esqs. The Misses Oakley, of Greenhurst Court, played a brilliant Duo ("Faust.") The part music was ably sung by the choir. Miss Annie Martin (pupil of the conductor) was again enthusiastically encored. Miss Palmer presided at the Pianoforte, and Mr. L. S. Palmer conducted with his usual ability.

SHEFFIELD.—Miss Clara Linley, of Low Ash Hall, gave a pianoforte recital at the Surrey Street Music Hall on the 14th ult. The local press is enthusiastic in praise of her executive powers and her musical feeling, both of which must have been severely tested by the programme selected, which contained several of the highest class compositions. Miss Linley is exceedingly young; and if she perseveres in the path she has chosen, may one day achieve a high reputation as a pianist.

SHREWSBURY.—The first of an intended series of Miscellaneous Concerts was given in the Music Hall, on the 31st October. We say *intended*, because we fancy that unless they are better supported, they will be soon given up; and considering how ably the idea has been carried out, we need scarcely say that we should much regret such a result. The only professional artists engaged were Miss Clara Wright and Mr. Ffrench Davis, the former of whom was highly successful in her vocal solos, and the latter in his performance of two harp pieces, for one of which he received a warm encore. The programme was varied and well selected; and several talented singers and instrumentalists lent their assistance on the occasion.

STAFFORD.—A Concert was given in the Lyceum on Tuesday, the 5th ult., by Mr. Henri P. Linter, organist of St. Thomas's, assisted by Miss Clara White and Mr. H. H. Campion, of the Birmingham concerts, and by several gentlemen amateurs. Mr. W. A. Marson played two pleasing solos on the violin, and Messrs. Kent, Roscoe, Salt, and Clewton sang a selection of glee and part songs with great taste. The proceeds of the concert were devoted to a charitable object in the town. Mr. Linter, with his usual kindness, gratuitously presided at the pianoforte. On Tuesday, the 5th ult. a new organ, built by Mr. Banfield, of Birmingham, was opened in the Wesleyan Chapel, by Mr. E. Shargool, organist of St. Mary's Church, who displayed the qualities of the instrument in a most excellent manner. The tone of the organ is extremely rich, and being placed in a recess built for the purpose, it has a most elegant and commanding appearance. The cost of the instrument was about £200.

STAINES.—On Monday, the 18th ult., a Concert was given in the Free School, by Mr. Richard Radcliffe, organist of St. Michael, Stanwell. Mr. B. Manders, organist of St. Thomas Church, Colnbrook, played a selection on the pianoforte; and Miss Hudson, organist of Horton, sang several of Sir H. Bishop's best songs. The room was well filled.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.—Mr. E. A. Sydenham, formerly a chorister of the Church of the Holy Trinity, in this town, and who is now pursuing his musical studies with much success at Leipzig, has recently gained one of the two prizes which are annually competed for about the end of October by the students of the Conservatorium, and which are given for the best Requiem, in memory of Mendelssohn. We understand that Mr. Sydenham, who conducted his own composition at the Memorial Concert, was complimented by the Director of the Conservatorium upon the skill and ingenuity with which it was written, and that it was received with flattering marks of approval both by professors and students.

WAKEFIELD.—Friday, the 1st ult. being the festival of All Saints, the annual special evening service in its commemoration was held in the parish church. The scaffolding, which has for some weeks filled the chancel, was removed, and we had the satisfaction of seeing for the first time the walls and columns stripped of the hideous plaster in which they have been encased for some 200 years, and fresh as though they had but now left the hands of their ancient builders. Several additions have been made to the organ, which has just received its 32 feet open diapason; and we have now only to express our delight at the result. The breadth and grandeur of this fine old instrument is truly marvellous, and we may congratulate our fellow-townsmen on the possession of an instrument, which, with the exception of those at York, Doncaster, and Leeds, has no rival in the West Riding of Yorkshire. The service was an elaborate one, and was exceedingly well rendered. The choir was augmented by about 20 of the members of the various

choirs in the town, and numbered altogether 65 voices. The introductory anthem was Mendelssohn's second Psalm, "Why rage fiercely the heathen," for a double choir, and was admirably sung. The anthem after the third collect was by Dr. Dykes, from the first vol. of Sir F. Osseley's collection, "These are they which came out of great tribulation," the tenor solo being most beautifully sung by Mr. George Appleyard; and the concluding anthem, "Worthy is the Lamb," with the "Amen" chorus from Handel's *Messiah*. The *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* were by J. B. Calkin, in D, two charming compositions, simple in structure, but full of the most delicate and subtle harmonies, and were admirably sung. A collection after the sermon, in aid of the general purposes of the restoration, amounted to about £22.

WATERFORD.—A concert was given by Mr. Jones at the Town Hall, on the 4th ult., which was very fully attended. The principal vocalists were Miss Edith Wynne and Mr. E. T. Close (vicar choral of Cashel Cathedral), and Miss Kate Gordon (pianist), Miss Edith Wynne was highly successful in the *scena* "Softly sighs," from *Der Freyschütz*, and also in several songs, which she gave with unaffected taste and expression. Miss Kate Gordon played two pianoforte solos, both of which were much applauded; and Mr. Milton Chapman gave a very excellent performance on the harmonium, a fine instrument, specially imported by Mr. Jones for the occasion. The orchestra played several pieces, under the able direction of Mr. Barry; and the concert concluded with the National Anthem.

WEXFORD.—Mr. R. Sutton Swaby gave an Organ Performance on the 13th November, in the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The programme included Mendelssohn's Organ Sonatas, Nos. 3 and 4; Bach's Fugue in D Major: the Overtures to *L'italiana in Algieri* and *Le Pré aux Clercs*, and Selections by Lemmens, Baisste, &c. Mr. Swaby's performance of this selection of music displayed not only great facility of execution, but also much finish and delicacy.

WINDSOR.—The twenty-sixth season of the Windsor and Eton Choral Society was inaugurated on the 6th ult., when the principal portion of Haydn's *Creation*, and a miscellaneous selection of secular music were performed with much success. The solo parts in the *Creation* were excellently given by Miss Jane Wells (soprano), Mr. Montem Smith (Tenor), and Mr. W. T. Briggs (Bass), and the same vocalists were also highly effective in several well chosen songs in the second part. Dr. Elvey conducted the band, Mr. F. Burgess assisted at the pianoforte, and Mr. S. Smith at the harmonium.

YORK.—The first of the series of "People's Concerts" for the present season, took place on the 4th ult., in the Festival Concert Room, under the patronage of Colonel Crawley and the officers of the Inniskilling Dragoons. The band of the above regiment occupied the orchestra, and formed the principal attraction of the evening. The vocalists were Miss Anna Hiles, Messrs. Ingram and W. C. Bell. Mr. Shaw presided at the pianoforte. Herr Drouet gave a concert in the Festival Concert Room, on the 15th ult. Mdile. Liebhart was the singer, and acquitted herself admirably, receiving two encores. Mons. De Jong played a solo on the flute. The band, consisting of above forty performers, gave Weber's *Jubilee* Overture, Schumann's Symphony in B flat, and the Overtures to *Leonora* and *Ruy Blas*. Herr Drouet proved himself an accomplished pianist by his performance of Mendelssohn's Concerto in G Minor. The concert gave great satisfaction to a numerous audience.

ORGAN APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. Charles E. Reed to the Parish Church, Willey, Warwickshire.—Mr. W. W. Wainwright to S. Peter's, Hackney-road.—Mr. George James Francis to St. James' Episcopal Chapel, Kennington-park-road.—Mr. J. G. White to Christ Church, Watney-street, Commercial-road.—Mr. Charles Jarrett to St. Mary's, Dover Castle.—Mr. James Falkner to the Congregational Chapel, Caledonian-road, N.—Mr. Isaac Warburton to St. Mark's Church, Sheffield.—Mr. Richard Mann, to the Abbey Church, Cirencester.—Miss H. E. Green, to S. Andrew's Church, Stockwell.

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